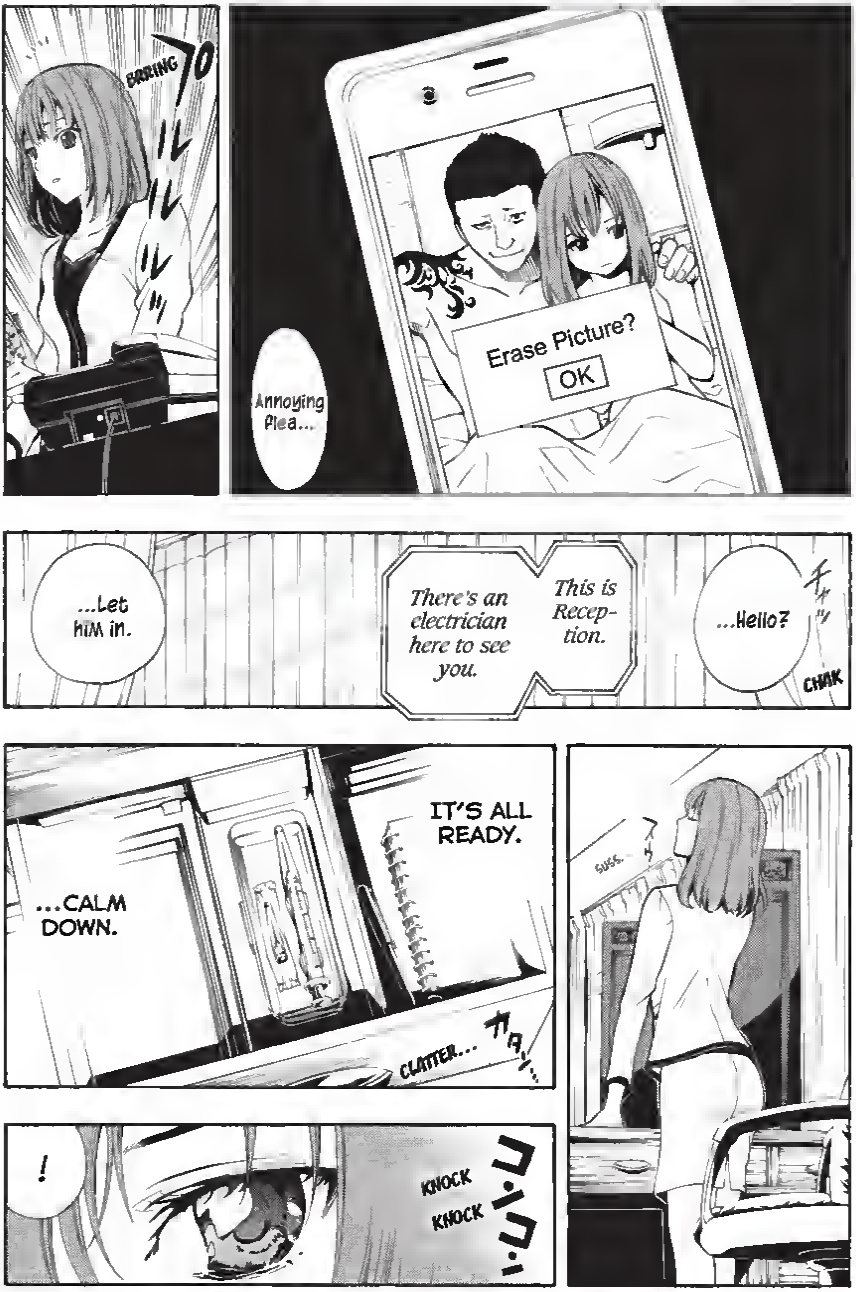
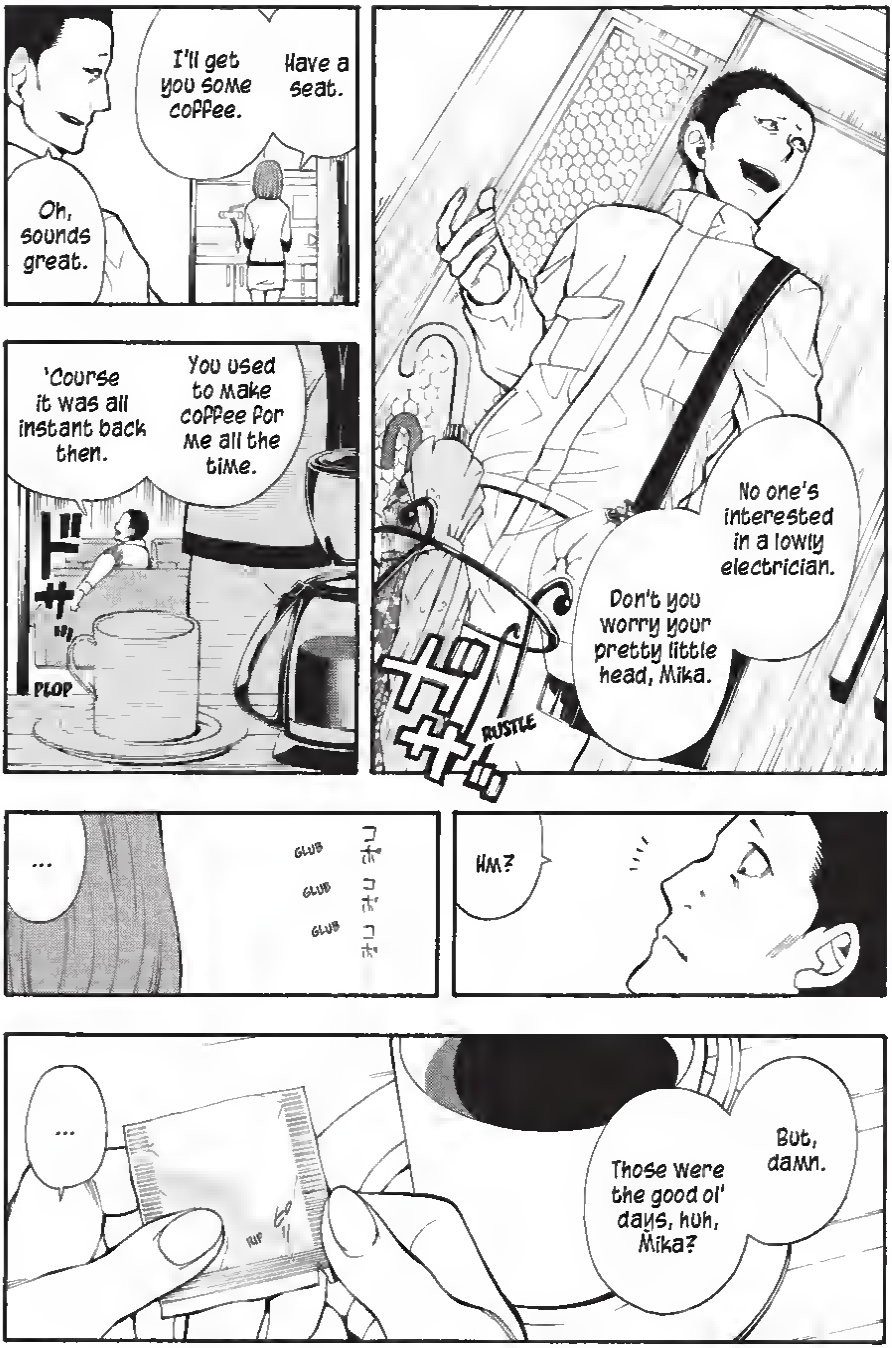
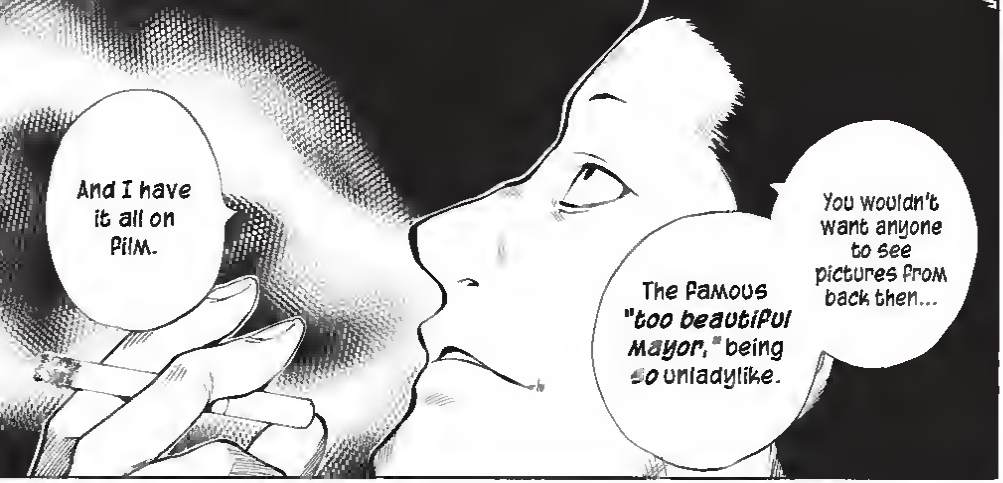
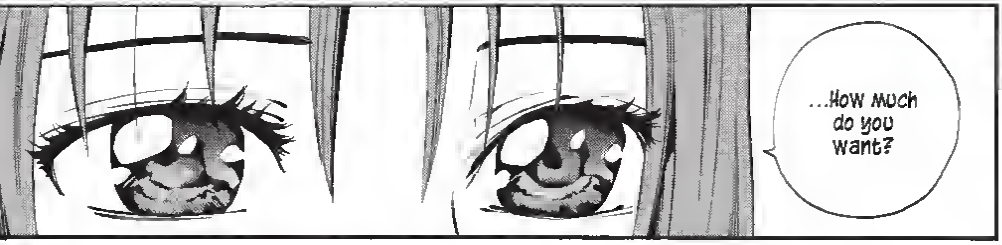
## Case 7: ⚜ Hidden from the Press, Part 1

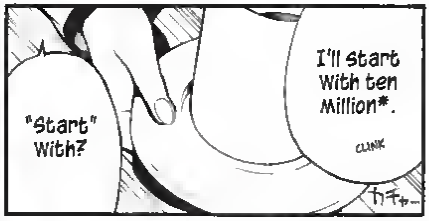

BEEPING
Annoying Plea...
Erase Picture?
OK
...Let him in.
There's an electrician here to see you.
This is Reception.
...Hello?
CHAK
...CALM DOWN.
IT'S ALL READY.
CLATTER...
SUCK...
!
KNOCK KNOCK
コンコン

!
CHAK...
...Come in.
...
Heh heh.
WHUM
I've come to fix your wiring.
Miss "Too Beautiful Mayor."
Ha ha.
...And no one saw you?
Especially not your face?
Nope.


Have a seat.
I'll get you some coffee.
Oh, sounds great.
No one's interested in a lowly electrician.
Don't you worry your pretty little head, Mika.
RUSTLE
You used to make coffee for me all the time.
'Course it was all instant back then.
PLOP
GLUB
GLUB
GLUB
...
HM?
But, damn.
Those were the good ol' days, huh, Mika?
...

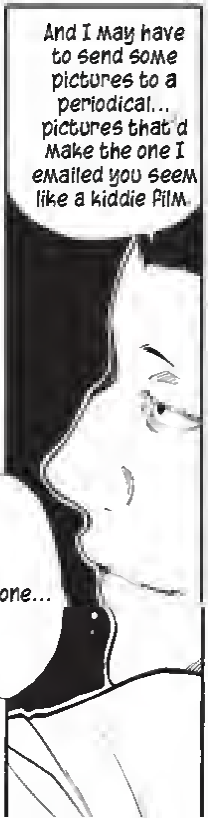

You wouldn't want anyone to see pictures from back then...
The famous "too beautiful mayor," being so unladylike.
And I have it all on film.



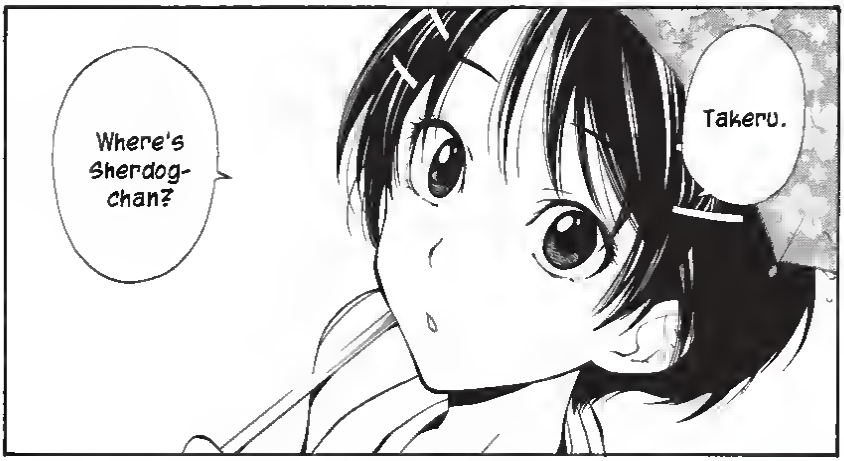

Ten million yen appr $100 000

It's not that much.
...
Considering your salary and all the bribes you're taking from different tradesmen here and there.
It's chump change.

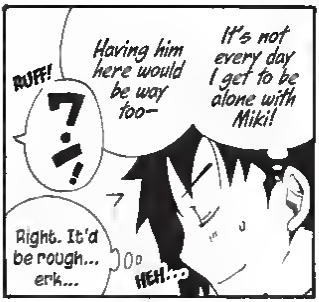

And I may have to send some pictures to a periodical... pictures that'd make the one I emailed you seem like a kiddie film.
Everyone...

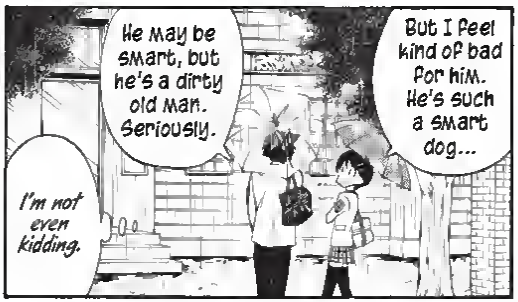
HUFF...
!?
DID YOU...
SWOON
HUFF...
!?
WH... WHAT...
!?
HUFF...
HUFF...
!?
PUT IN COFFEE...
SLUMP
WH... AT...?
CRASH
ガシャッ
WILL KNOW
SWOON...
WHAT KIND OF DIRTY THINGS..
!
YOU'VE...
ZSHH
RUSTLE
SCRUB
SCRUB

I have to hurry.
...


Where's Sherdog-chan?
Takeru.

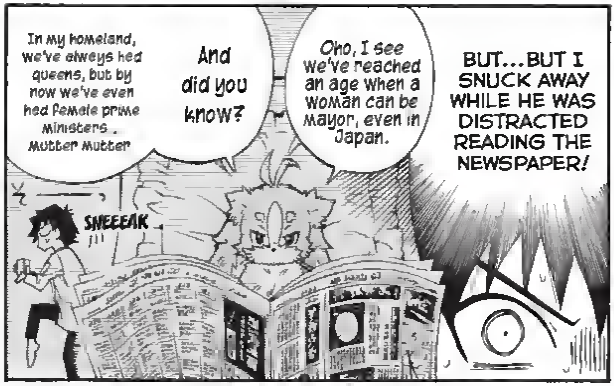
I figured I couldn't really bring a dog along.
Oh...yeah, that's true.
Oh.
Since we're going to interview the Mayor for the school paper today,

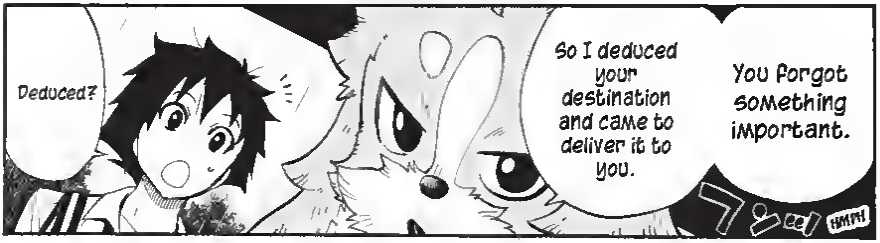

RUFF!
?!
Having him here would be way too—
It's not every day I get to be alone with Miki!
Right. It'd be rough... erk...
HEH...


He may be smart, but he's a dirty old man. Seriously.
I'm not even kidding.
But I feel kind of bad for him. He's such a smart dog...

What took you, Watson!!
はっはっはっ
HEFF HEFF HEFF
Ugh! Sherdog!!

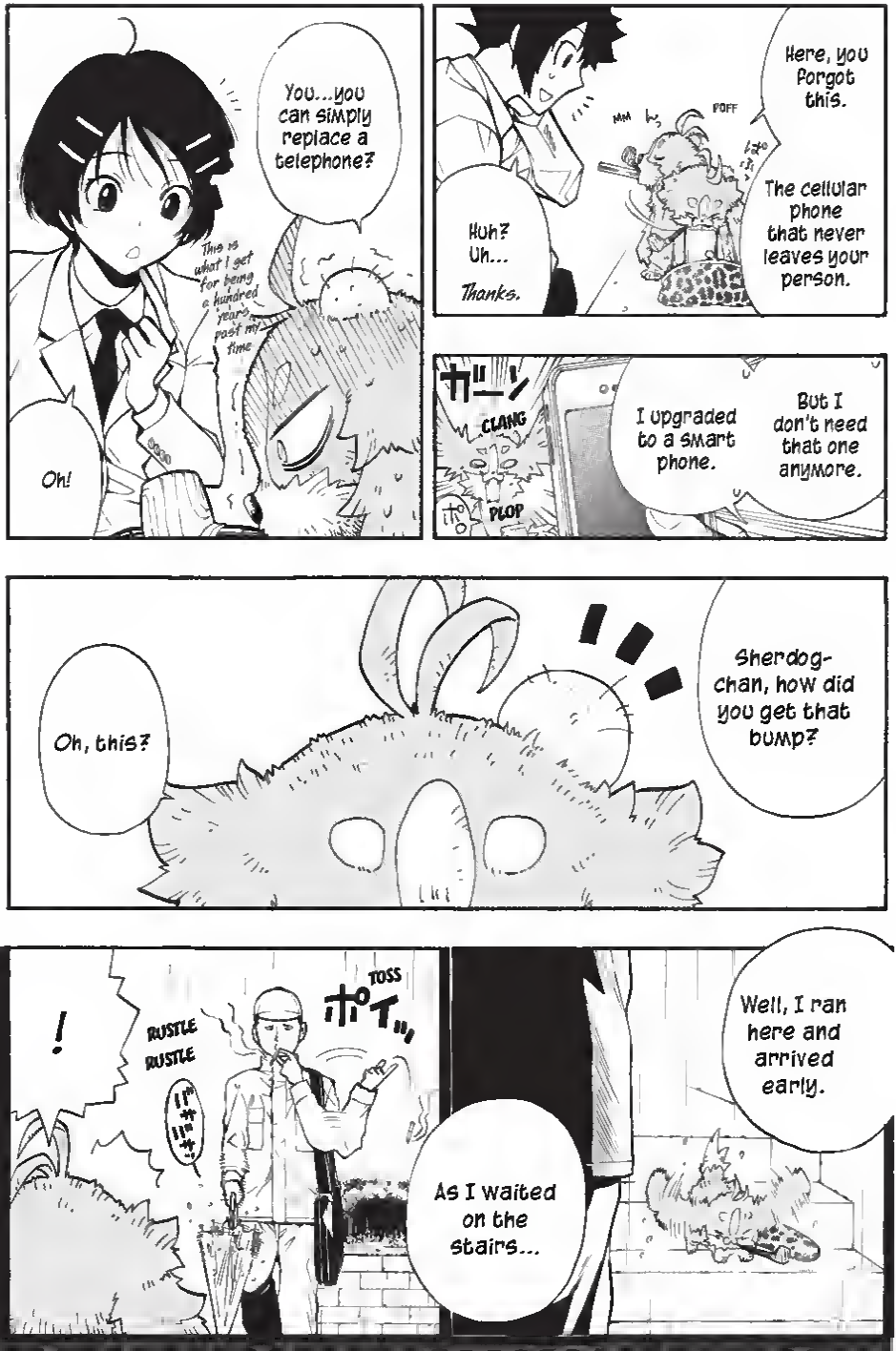
"Ugh"? What did I do to deserve that?
HMPH
Wh...What are you doing here?
And how did you get here ahead of me?


In my homeland, we've always had queens, but by now we've even had female prime ministers. Mutter Mutter
And did you know?
Oho, I see we've reached an age when a woman can be mayor, even in Japan.
BUT...BUT I SNUCK AWAY WHILE HE WAS DISTRACTED READING THE NEWSPAPER!
SNEEEAK


Deduced?
So I deduced your destination and came to deliver it to you.
You forgot something important.
HMPH

You were using Irene's computer and "Gulgul Maps"
to get directions to city hall, were you not?
And an article had been taken from the middle of this morning's paper—
An interview with the "too beautiful mayor."
Gulgul
London city hall
There were signs that it had been read.
That's why I was reading it.
Furthermore, I noticed you had come home for a moment.
Then you took the school paper's video camera, which you had mysteriously brought home,
And sneaked out again.

All of those facts led me to the conclusion that you were on your way to city hall!
to interview this beautiful mayor for your school paper, and so I hurried to meet you.
HEH.
D...DEDUCED NOTHING! YOU WERE JUST SPYING ON ME!!


You...you can simply replace a telephone?
This is what I get for being a hundred years past my time
Oh!
Here, you forgot this.
POFF
The cellular phone that never leaves your person.
Huh? Uh... Thanks.
CLANG
PLOP
I upgraded to a smart phone.
But I don't need that one anymore.
Oh, this?
Sherdog-chan, how did you get that bump?
!
RUSTLE RUSTLE
TOSS
As I waited on the stairs...
Well, I ran here and arrived early.

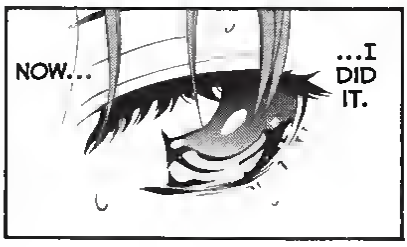
ARF
ARF
ARF
ARF
It may be raining now, but you could burn down city hall...
My good sir! What makes you think you can throw a lit cigarette into the bushes!!
WHACK
Shut up, you stupid dog.
Hrrrrgh... In my heyday, I could teach him a lesson with my judo skills...
One moment please.
Excuse me, I'M here to repair the ceiling lights in the Mayor's office.
..There's something very singular about that man.

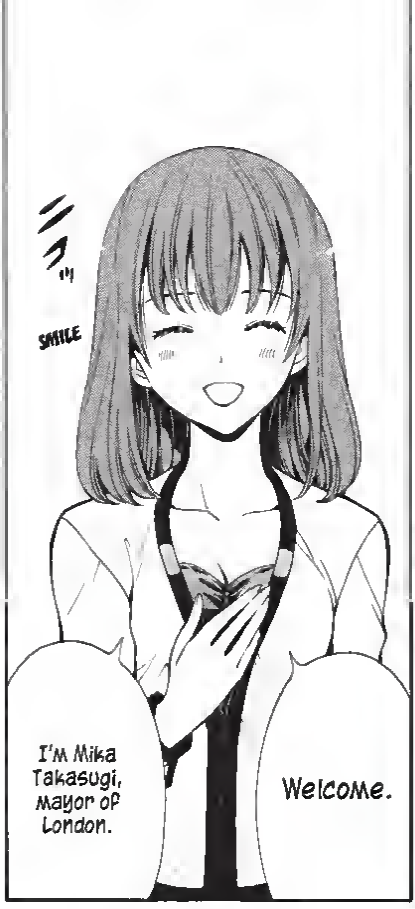
Especially because he was rather short even for a Japanese man.
an electrician who had come to repair ceiling lights
should have a stepladder with him.
I see.
Hmmm.
So? What was so strange about him?
Well,
I can only think that he wanted to hide his face.
Hmm...
Also, he tossed out his used cigarette,
and deliberately put on a mask before going in to reception.
Yeah, that does sound a little weird.
Well, we're about to see the mayor. Maybe we'll ask her about it.
Arf!
Good! I'll go with you!!
What? ...Okay, but you'd better stay inside my bag.
Grr! Such humiliation...

Two students from London Academy are here for their three o'clock appointment.
This is reception.
Yes?
Please let them in.

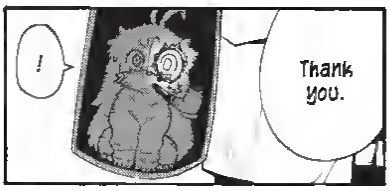
DING

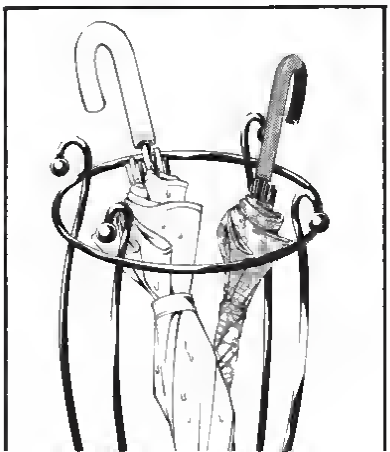
I'LL GIVE THEM A TOUR OF CITY HALL...
I JUST HAVE TO DRAG THIS OUT AS LONG AS I CAN.
?!?
DING
DING


NOW...
...I DID IT.


SMILE
I'm Mika Takasugi, mayor of London.
Welcome.

Pleased to meet you!


!
Thank you.



RIGIO
FLUSTER
Wow, she really is pretty.
Wajima, likewise.
I'm Arisaka, a second-year student on the London Academy newspaper.
Please, come in.

It must not have been easy, getting here in the rain.
Oh, it was all right.
Please, have a seat.

...!!

She... Sherdog, you idiot! What are you doing?
Oh, that's all right. What a cute little doggie.

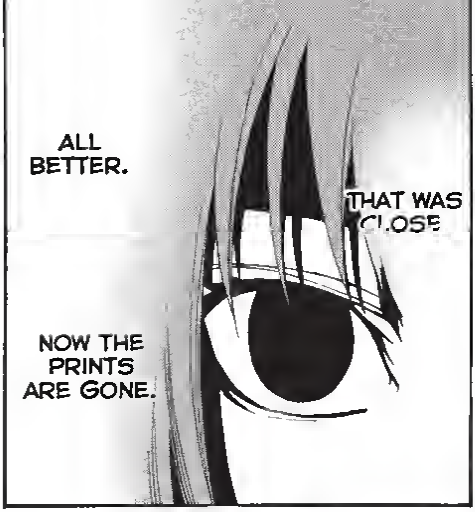
Ah!
Huh?
SHOOP

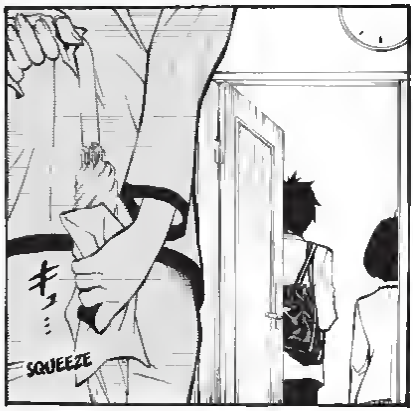
Oh?

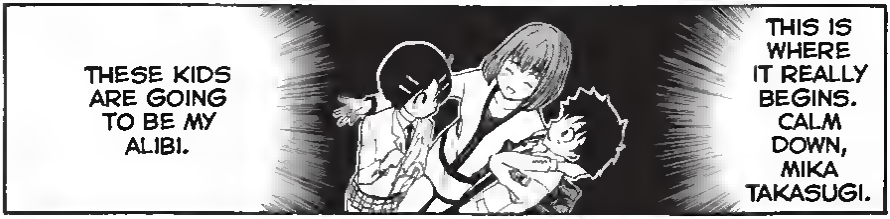
ワン!!
ARF!
Huh?
Th-that jerk, taking advantage of being a puppy again!
YOINK
よいっ
...
Can I hold him?
What...?
UM...
Did you have a visitor before us?
Why...?
No...none to speak of.
B-BMP...

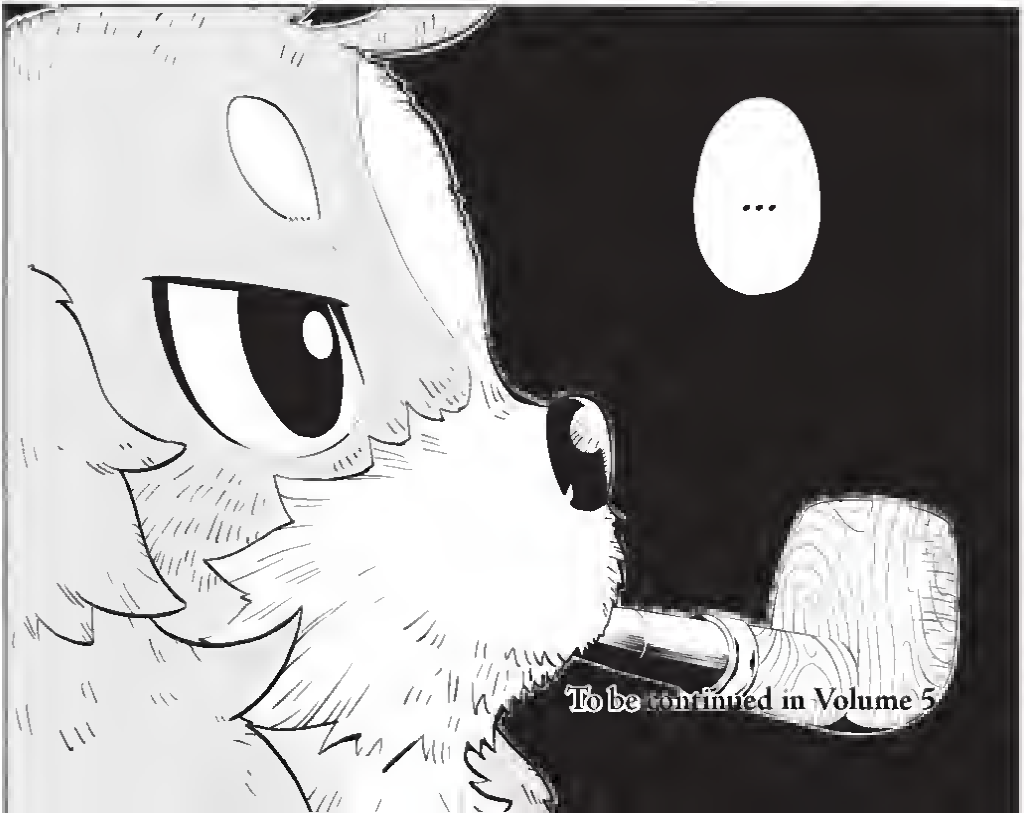
Now, before we get started, why don't I show you around city hall?
I HAVE TO STALL FOR AS MUCH TIME AS I CAN GET.
!
Oh, I just saw that coffee cup over there...
Oh...
That's Mine.
?!...
ARF!
!
UM...
I NEED TO KEEP THESE KIDS WITH ME
UNTIL MY NEXT APPOINTMENT, NO MATTER WHAT.

There was a wet umbrella in there before we got here.
Where did it come from?
He must have forgotten to take his umbrella with him.
...
Oh, that's right. There was an electrician here.
Go on, after you.
Oh, thanks.
Oh, come on, an electrician isn't a visitor.
?
But you just said you didn't have any visitors...


ALL BETTER.
THAT WAS CLOSE
NOW THE PRINTS ARE GONE.

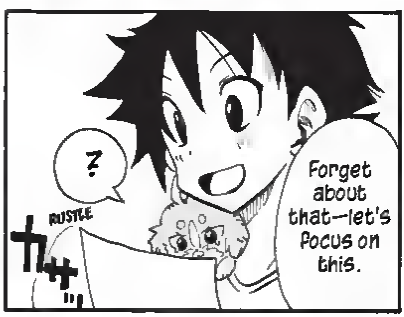

SQUEEZE

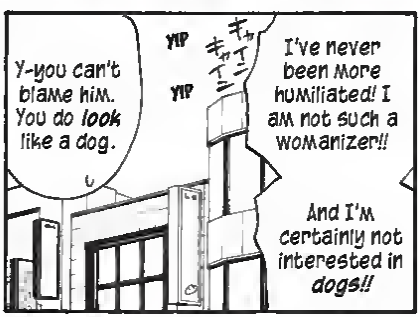

THESE KIDS ARE GOING TO BE MY ALIBI.
THIS IS WHERE IT REALLY BEGINS. CALM DOWN, MIKA TAKASUGI.


...
To be continued in Volume 5

THAT WASN'T REALLY A GOOD STOPPING POINT, BUT IT'S TIME FOR A BONUS CHAPTER!!

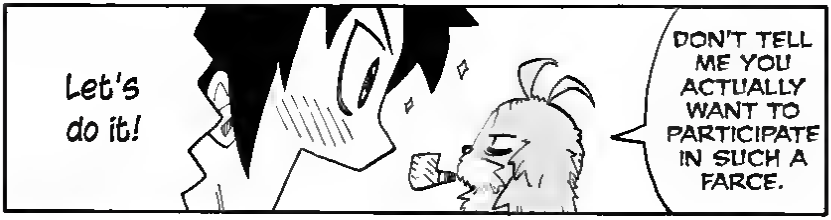
That won't happen, Dad!!
I'm going out for a bit!!
Grrrr!
If we're not careful, he might sneak off somewhere, find a female, and make some puppies...
I mean, I know he's a smart dog, but he's still male.
SNIP
SNIP
SNIP

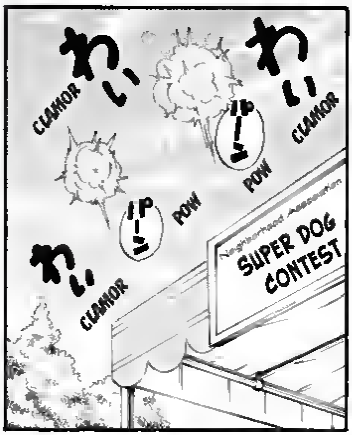

?
RUSTLE
Forget about that—let's focus on this.

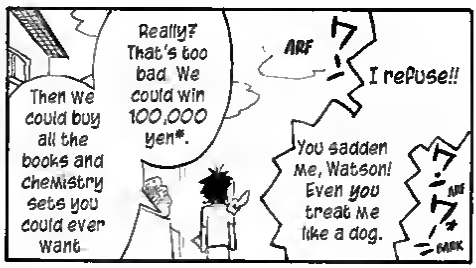

Y-you can't blame him. You do look like a dog.
YIP
YIP
I've never been more humiliated! I am not such a womanizer!!
And I'm certainly not interested in dogs!!

Super Dog Contest!!
Neighborhood Association
SUPER DOG CONTEST
It's the neighborhood association's
Grand Prize: 100,000 yen
PLUS PRIZES FOR RUNNERS-UP

GIDDY
Dog tricks, an intelligence test!!
It's a judgment of our souls, a test of the bond between a dog and his Master!!
A five-legged race with your Master!
A Frisbee competition! An obstacle course!!


Let's do it!
DON'T TELL ME YOU ACTUALLY WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH A FARCE.


CLAMOR
POW
SUPER DOG CONTEST


Then we could buy all the books and chemistry sets you could ever want.
Really? That's too bad. We could win 100,000 yen*.
ARF
I refuse!!
You sadden me, Watson! Even you treat me like a dog.
ARF
MRK

*About $1,000.

...
...

ODHH
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
BAH!
Sherdog, are you ready to...
Whoa, that's awesome!
WOW!
WHOOSH
Okay! Come on!!
WHOOSH
Think of the books! Now get up!!
Fetch!
MMK
Pick it up in your mouth!
GAP
GAP
UIZE
...do nothing?!

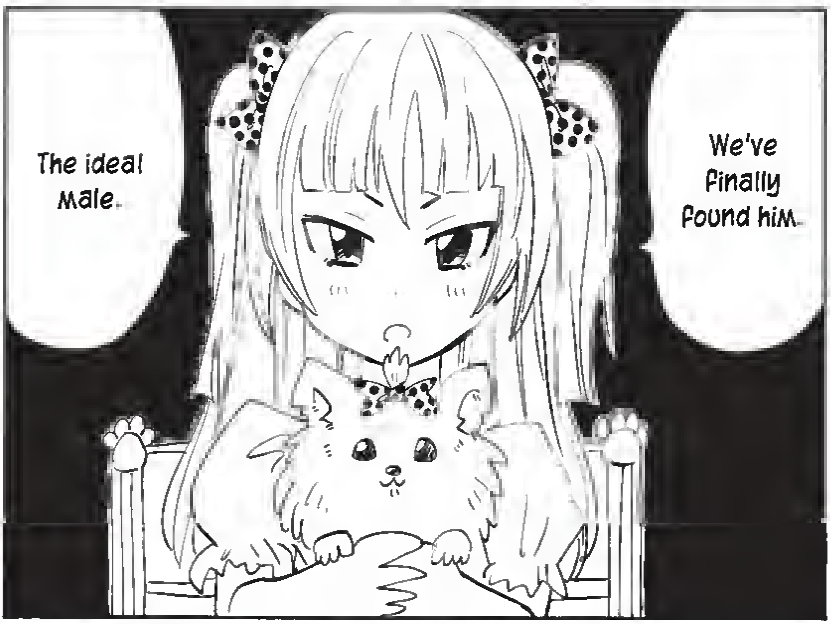
Dog Tricks
SCRITCH SCRITCH
YAAAWN.
Don't just lie there!
Obstacle Course
Don't ride the other dogs!
...Is it just me, or is that dog not acting like a dog?
MURMUR...
SULK
Ugh! We're not getting any points!
THEY'RE ALL AS SOFT AS JERKY SOAKED IN MILK.
HEH... IT LOOKS LIKE I'LL BE GETTING THE HIGH SCORE AGAIN...
Now for our last event, the intelligence test!
Super Dog Contest
Undefeated Champion
John Howard

NOW MY VICTORY IS ASSURED...
EASY. SO EASY.
5
1
?!
WHOA!
Draw the right cards.
Okay, John, here's your question. What is 18 plus 33?
BOW WOW
WILL DO, MY MASTER!
The...the dog... He wrote in English!!
WOOOOOW
SUCK
Unbelievable!! How did you train him?!

Ando-sensei, Editor I-san, Editor H-san, Graphic Novel Editor E-san, Designer Y-san, everyone at the publishing company,

Everyone in sales, my staff, my mentor, my friends, my family, and all my readers—thank you!

I'll keep working hard. ^^ Yuki




Oops, we've ended on another cliffhanger.. To be continued!!

## Sherlock Bones 3 Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

### *Idol collage, page 10*

As you may have guessed from the context, an "idol collage" is a doctored photo of a celebrity, putting them in a situation they wouldn't normally be found in. The idol collage is such a common form of doctoring photos in Japan that the term "ai-kora," short for "aidoru koraaju" or "idol collage," has become synonymous with a photo of anyone doctored in that way, famous or not.

You know, like one of those doctored idol collages.
I think somebody
Found a picture on the internet, and stuck Nanami-san's face on it.

***Autocorrect, page 15***

Japanese typing works a little bit differently than English typing, so "autocorrect" wasn't exactly the problem. The Japanese writing system uses a combination of two Japanese syllabaries, or kana (representing syllables), and adopted Chinese characters, or kanji (representing words or ideas). To avoid having to have thousands of different kanji available on a keyboard, in Japan, they use keyboards with the alphabet (in other words, their keyboards are just like ours). That means they use the alphabet to spell out Japanese words, then hit the space bar to select which kana or kanji to use in the text. Different kanji can be pronounced the same way, so if you type the same word, but choose the wrong kanji, your text could end up with a very different meaning the the one you intended. Like autocorrect's memory, the Japanese word input remembers which kanji is most like to be used by a device's user. In this case, the word in question is kanshin, meaning favor (歓心), as in "currying favor through illicit activities), or interest (関心), as in "I want students to take interest in the student council's activities."

### *Coki Samejima, page 16*

For the curious, the typo in question for the Japanese version turned the name Kōki, meaning "high and noble," into kōki, the first two kanji from kōkishin, meaning "curiosity."

### *Screen tone, page 118*

Screen tone is what manga artists use to "color" their manga. Any area that isn't black or white is made gray or given a texture or pattern with screen tone. It works like a sticker, and comes in sheets, or screens. The manga artist (or more likely, his assistants) will cut out a piece of screen tone roughly the size of the area that needs to be covered, then he'll lay it over the drawing and use a small blade to cut away the pieces that don't fit inside the lines. As a result, a bunch of little sticky bits get left all over the place.

*Sherlock Bones* volume 4 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

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